Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)

## REGIS JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE COLORADO GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Ana Holland of Regis Jesuit High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Colorado Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Holland is the first Gatorade Colorado Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Regis Jesuit High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track, distinguishes Holland as Colorado's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Holland joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-1 senior won three individual championships at the Class 5A state meet and led the Raiders to fourth place as a team this season. Also The Denver Post All-Colorado Athlete of the Year, Holland captured first place in the 400-meter dash with a state-record time of 52.49 seconds, the 100-meter dash in 11.33 and the 200-meter dash in 23.54. Her 400- and 100-meter times at the state meet as well as her 200-meter time of 23.29 at the Liberty Bell Invitational, respectively, ranked first, second and third among U.S. prep competitors in 2013 at the time of her selection. She also won the 100 and 400 as a sophomore at the 2011 Class 5A state meet.

Holland has maintained a 3.63 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's Esprit de Corps student group, she has volunteered 120 hours of community service on behalf of the Each One Teach One organization.

"Her athletic ability is exceptional, as evidenced by winning three state titles and being nationally ranked in all three of those events," said Lou Krauss, head coach of rival Highlands Ranch High. "She has also demonstrated class and humbleness to her fellow competitors. She is certainly the class of female athletes in Colorado."

Holland has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at the University of Virginia this fall.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Holland joins recent Gatorade Colorado Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Valarie Allman (2011-12, Silver Creek High School), Dior Hall (2010-11, George Washington High School), Eleanor Fulton (2009-10, Highlands Ranch), LaTraia Scott (2008-09, Coronado), Emily Blok (2007-08, Conifer), and Sarah Cocco (2006-2007, Fairview) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit <a href="www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>